

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UN, WMO, TGEN
SUBJ: WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION (WMO) - XXX EC
SESSION: PROPOSAL TO GRANT MEMBERSHIP TO COUNCIL FOR
NAMIBIA

SUMMARY: WMO SECGEN, ACTING ON RECOMMENDATION XXIX EC
(1977) ASKS IN DOCUMENT 53, ADD 1 CONSIDERATION BY
CURRENT EC OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT WMO CONVENTION TO PERMIT
THE GRANTING OF MEMBERSHIP TO UN COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA.
EC PREP COM WORKING GROUP OFFERED NO COMMENT TO DRAFT
AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY SYG. POSSIBLE ACTION ON PROPOSAL
MAY BE TAKEN BY EC, WHICH WILL MEET FROM JUNE 5 TO 15,
BUT AMENDMENT TO CONVENTION CAN ONLY BE AUTHORIZED BY
WMO VIII CONGRESS NEXT YEAR. END SUMMARY

1. EC - XXIX (1977) REQUESTED WMO SECGEN TO DISCUSS
WITH UNSYG PROCEDURE WMO MIGHT FOLLOW TO IMPLEMENT UNGA
RESOLUTION 31/142 WHICH REQUESTS ALL SPECIALIZED AGENCIES
TO CONSIDER GRANTING FULL MEMBERSHIP TO UN COUNCIL ON
NAMIBIA.

2. LETTER FROM UN LEGAL COUNSEL RECOGNIZES THAT WHETHER
OR NOT WMO CONVENTION ALLOWS COMPLIANCE WITH UNGA
RECOMMENDATIONS IS MATTER FOR COMPETENT ORGANS OF WMO
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TO DETERMINE.

3. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE 3(F) OF CONVENTION, MEMBERSHIP
MAY BE GRANTED TO ANY TERRITORY OR GROUP OF TRUST
TERRITORIES MAINTAINING ITS OWN METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE,
TO WHICH THE UN APPLIES PRESENT CONVENTION IN ACCORDANCE
WITH ARTICLE 34.

4. THE SYG PROPOSAL TO AMEND WMO CONVENTION TO GRANT MEMBERSHIP TO COUNCIL ON NAMIBIA CONSISTS OF FOLLOWING AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 34(C): QUOTE THE UNITED NATIONS MAY APPLY THE PRESENT CONVENTION TO ANY TERRITORY OR GROUP OF TERRITORIES ADMINISTERED BY THE UN AS TRUST TERRITORY OR GROUP OF TRUST TERRITORIES OR BY AN ORGAN ESTABLISHED BY THE UN FOR THAT PURPOSE. UNQUOTE

5. AS INDICATED ABOVE, WORKING GROUP WHICH INCLUDED US, FRANCE, USSR AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM LATIN AMERICA AND AFRICA, AGREED ON STATEMENT ON DRAFT PREPARED BY SYG. THE STATEMENT, ADDRESSED TO CHAIRMEN OF PREP COM READS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE ALTHOUGH MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP ARE NOT INTERNATIONAL LEGAL EXPERTS, IT WAS THE GENERAL FEELING THAT THE ABOVE MENTIONED DRAFT APPEARS TO BE GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE FROM A DRAFTING POINT OF VIEW. THE WORKING GROUP DID NOT EXPRESS ANY OPINION ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MATTER, WHICH FALLS UNDER THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE UNDER YOUR CHAIRMANSHIP. UNQUOTE

6. WHILE ATTENTION GIVEN TO THE PROPOSAL BY THE WORKING GROUP CONSTITUTES NO FORMAL ACTION, THE PROPOSAL WILL COME BEFORE THE EC FORMALLY AT ITS JUNE 5-15 MEETING. THEREFORE, REQUEST THE DELEGATION BE PROVIDED WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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GUIDANCE AND BACKGROUND NECESSARY FOR DEALING WITH THIS MATTER SHOULD EC CONSIDER RECOMMENDING SPECIFIC ACTION BY VIII CONGRESS. VANDEN HEUVEL

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